

Noncreditable Foods in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

Noncreditable foods are foods and beverages that cannot credit in the USDA's meal patterns for Child Nutrition Programs. For information on the SFSP meal patterns, see the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) handout, [SFSP Meal Patterns](#).

Examples of noncreditable foods include potato chips, pudding, ice cream, gelatin, cream cheese, bacon, condiments (e.g., syrup, jam, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, and butter), and water. The chart below lists additional examples of noncreditable foods for the SFSP. This list is not all-inclusive.

SFSP sponsors may serve noncreditable foods in addition to the meal components to add variety, help improve acceptability in the meal, and satisfy appetites. Some examples include maple syrup on pancakes, salad dressing on tossed greens, and condiments such as ketchup or mustard on sandwiches and other entrees.

To ensure that SFSP meals meet children's nutritional needs, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) encourages SFSP sponsors to use discretion when serving noncreditable foods. Noncreditable foods typically contain few nutrients and are higher in added sugars, saturated fats, and sodium. Menu planners should read labels, be aware of the ingredients in foods, and limit the frequency and amount of less nutritious choices.

For information on crediting foods, see the CSDE's [Crediting Foods in School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage.

Examples of noncreditable foods	
Almond milk ¹	Candy ²
Bacon and bacon bits	Candy-coated popcorn ²
Banana chips	Chocolate milk-based drinks, e.g., Yoo-Hoo ³
Bread products that are not whole grain or enriched	Cream soups, canned, e.g., cream of mushroom, cream of celery, cream of broccoli
Butter	



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Examples of noncreditable foods, continued

Coffee (regular, decaffeinated, iced) ²	Mayonnaise
Condiments, e.g., ketchup, mustard, relish, barbecue sauce	Mustard
Cranberry cocktail drink ²	Nectar drinks ²
Cream, half and half	Nondairy milk that does not meet the USDA's nutrition standards for fluid milk substitutes ¹
Cream cheese	Popsicles (not 100 percent juice)
Eggnog ²	Potato chips
Egg whites	Pudding
Frozen yogurt	Pudding pops
Fruit drink, fruit beverage, powdered fruit drink mix ²	Rice milk ¹
Fruit leathers (100 percent fruit)	Salad dressings
Fruit punch (not 100 percent juice) ²	Sherbet
Fruit snacks, e.g., fruit roll-ups, wrinkles, twists	Soda, regular and diet ²
Gelatin, regular and sugar free	Soups, non-vegetable, canned, e.g., beef barley, beef noodle, turkey or chicken noodle, and turkey or chicken rice
Grain products that are not whole grain or enriched	Sour cream
Honey	Soy milk that does not meet the USDA's nutrition standards for fluid milk substitutes ¹
Hot chocolate ²	Sports drinks ²
Ice cream	Spreadable fruit
Ice cream novelties	Syrup
Ice milk	Tea, regular, herbal, iced ²
Iced coffee ²	Tofu with less than 5 grams of protein in 2.2 ounces (weight) or ¼ cup (volume) ³
Iced tea ²	Water
Jam and jelly	White rice, unenriched
Lemonade ²	
Limeade ²	
Maple syrup	
Margarine	
Marshmallows	

¹ Milk substitutes must meet the USDA's nutrition standards for fluid milk substitutes. For more information, see the CSDE's handout, [*Allowable Milk Substitutes for Children without Disabilities in School Nutrition Programs*](#).

² These foods and beverages should not be served as part of SFSP meals.

³ For more information, see the CSDE's handout, [*Crediting Tofu and Tofu Products in the NSLP and SBP*](#).

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Resources

Administration Guide: Summer Food Service Program (USDA):

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/sfsp/SFSP_Admin_Guide_Sept2016.pdf

Allowable Milk Substitutes for Children without Disabilities in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/SpecDiet/Milksub.pdf>

Crediting Commercial Meat/Meat Alternate Products in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditMMA.pdf>

Crediting Deli Meats in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditDeli.pdf>

Crediting Enriched Grains in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditEnrichedGrains.pdf>

Crediting Foods for Grades K-12 in School Nutrition Programs (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Crediting-Foods-in-School-Nutrition-Programs/Documents>

Crediting Tofu and Tofu Products in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditTofu.pdf>

Crediting Whole Grains in the NSLP and SBP (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Crediting/CreditWholeGrains.pdf>

Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (USDA):

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-for-child-nutrition-programs>

Nutrition Guide: Summer Food Service Program (USDA):

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/sfsp/USDA_SFSP_NutritionGuide.pdf

Summer Food Service Program Meal Pattern (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SFSP/MealPattern/SFSPMealPattern.pdf>

USDA Memo SP 08-2019 CACFP 02-2019 SFSP 02-2019: Update of Food Crediting in the Child Nutrition Programs:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/update-food-crediting-child-nutrition-programs>

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For more information, visit the CSDE's [SFSP](#) website or contact Caroline Cooke at caroline.cooke@ct.gov or 860-807-2144, Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841.

This document is available at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SFSP/MealPattern/NoncredSFSP.pdf>.

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Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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